

S-402  
Melody Manor  
Princess Anne vicinity  
private

c. 1903

Perhaps the most extravagant house to be erected along the Wicomico Creek during the twentieth century and one of only a few Shingle style houses in Somerset County, "Melody Manor" has long been known for its unusual architectural features and exotic history. Most striking about the tee-shaped exterior is the round, three-story tower that dominates the southeast corner along the entrance drive. The tower roof is marked by a crenellated parapet. Encompassing more than twenty rooms, the expansive frame house is covered with round-butt shingles. Not uncommon for the period are the porch areas incorporated under a shed roof across the creek-side elevation. The interiors were finished in a traditionally eclectic fashion with a mixture of Gothic Revival and classically inspired woodwork. The twin stair that rises in the front hall is especially noteworthy.

Architect Stanford White is credited with the design for the dwelling after Ellison and Mary van Hoose purchased the creek site in 1903. It has been reported that with White's death in 1906 he never saw the house completed. With a background in professional opera, the van Hooses appropriately named their estate, "Melody Manor." During the late teens the estate was owned by John and Mary Value, who later sold the property in 1929 to Robert Hupke, a Montana cattle farmer. "Melody Manor" has been remembered especially during the Hupke ownership and during Prohibition as a popular nightclub that offered residents weekly entertainment. The Hupke's sold the property in 1935. Most recently, the title to "Melody Manor" has been held by the Adkins family.



Melody Manor

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Polks Landing vicinity, Somerset Co.,Md.

North Elevation

8/85, Paul Touart, Photographer

Neg./Md. Historical Trust



Tull Farm S-403  
Allen vicinity, Somerset Co., Md.  
South Elevation  
7/86, Paul Touart, Photographer  
Neg./Md. Historical Trust

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MELODY MANOR

Princess Anne vicinity, Somerset Co.

10/85 Paul Touart photographer

Southeast elevation

Negative/MD Historical Trust





Melody Manor

S-402

Polks Landing vicinity, Somerset Co., Md.  
Barns - North Elevation

10/85, Paul Touart, Photographer  
Neg./Md. Historical Trust